

Guaicaro language

Guaicaro (Guaïcaro) is an extinct, unclassified language of Patagonia known only from a 19-word list and personal names.

The Guaicaro people apparently lived on the Brunswick Peninsula, bordering the Tehuelche to their northeast in around Laguna Blanca.

The Guaicaros (also rendered *Guaïkaros*, *Guaicurúes*, *Huacurúes*) were apparently the same people known as the Huemules (*Güemules*) and *Supalios*.^[1]

Classification

It is only known from personal names and a list of 19 words elicited using gestures from last documented speaker, a medicine man living among the Tehuelche, and published in 1896. Most of the words can be explained as Central Alacaluf or Tawókser (or both), though *mer* 'arm' appears to instead by Chon.

Vocabulary

Word list of Guaicaro documented by Ramón Lista (1896):^[3]

Guaicaro	
Native to	Chile
Region	Brunswick Peninsula
Era	primarily attested mid 19th century, but seems it may have survived well into the 20th ^[1]
Language family	unclassified, perhaps Alacalufan
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	<i>None</i> (mis)
Glottolog	guai1246 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/guai1246) ^[2]

Spanish gloss	English gloss	Guaicaro
fuego	fire	charcuish
viento	wind	lefeskar
nube	cloud	arkayeta
hombre	man	pellieri
mujer	woman	esnatan
ojos	eyes	têl ó téel
boca	mouth	asfjestail
nariz	nose	huicharek
cabeza	head	hurkúar
perro	dog	shalki
pescado	fish	yaulchel
leña	firewood	kekásh
mano	hand	teregua
dedo	finger	fol karjk
brazo	arm	merr
dientes	teeth	lefeskar
pelo	hair	tercóf
cantar	sing	lektan
llorar	cry	etkastal

References

1. Viegas Barros, Pedro, 2005. *Voces en el viento: Raíces lingüísticas de la Patagonia*, p.44. Buenos Aires: Ediciones Mondragon.
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Guaicaro" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/guai1246>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. Lista, Ramón (1896). Lenguas argentinas: los tehuelches de la Patagonia. ASCA, 42: 35-43.

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